

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

AUGUST 13, 2013

**Amendment to Agenda Item 5 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Control – Drug Medi-Cal Program**

The Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) program is a State-run program that provides critical services to individuals with various alcohol and drug abuse problems. Taxpayer dollars allocated to the program must be safeguarded. The State's Department of Health Care Services' recent efforts to suspend numerous providers, however, inadvertently places thousands of patients at risk for disruptions of care.

The DMC Program represents 44% of the total alcohol and drug programs which the Department of Public Health must administer. Efforts to improve and safeguard program integrity and quality must occur across all County-administered alcohol and drug programs.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Instruct the Auditor-Controller to include in its program audit recommendations that would improve the program integrity of all alcohol and drug programs administered by the Department of Public Health, not just the Drug Medi-Cal program.

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**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

**I FURTHER MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Instruct the Department of Public Health to work with County Counsel to report back in 15 days with a plan that helps patients avoid and mitigate harmful disruptions in care as a result of the recent suspensions of numerous providers. This report shall include:
  - a) Estimates of the number of patients affected at each suspended site countywide;
  - b) A description of the types of services that these patients were receiving by each suspended Los Angeles County provider and whether those services were being provided as a condition of probation, parole, family reunification or some other liberty; and
  - c) A description of the notification that these patients are receiving regarding alternative places to go for alcohol and drug treatment services, how they can obtain written copies of their patient records and other rights they may have.
2. Instruct the Chief Executive Officer and County Counsel to work with the Departments of Children and Family Services, Public Health, Probation (juvenile and adult) and criminal court leadership (juvenile and adult) to develop and report back in 15 days on a plan that ensures parents of children in dependency cases and youth and adults on parole and

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probation are not referred to suspended providers. This report back should include a determination whether sufficient alcohol and drug providers in good standing currently remain available, will remain available during health reform implementation and, if not, recommended steps to improve access; and

3. Instruct the Director of Public Health (DPH), working with the Chief Executive Officer, to provide a written status update report to the Board of Supervisors in 30 days of its efforts since 2009 to ensure all alcohol and drug treatment program contracts administered by the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) program undergo a fair and competitive process for the issuance of the Request for Proposals. This report should describe the steps that DPH is taking to ensure the SAPC program contracts with quality, accessible, culturally appropriate and accountable agencies.

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